

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-04 PPT-01 CA-01 INSE-00 SCS-06
FBIE-00 INR-10 OC-06 CCO-00 WRDE-00 VO-05 L-03
CPR-01 /050 W
-----006826 071914Z /43

P 071708Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8722
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY

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ROME AND VIENNA FOR INS

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CGEN, CVIS, UR, US
SUBJECT: US-USSR CONSULAR TALKS REOPENED

REFS: (A) STATE 52472, (B) MOSCOW 2638, (C) LENINGRAD
686, (D) MOSCOW 1843

1. EMBASSY'S CONSULAR COUNSELOR SUBMITTED NON-PAPER
PER REFTELS A AND B, PLUS SUPPLEMENTARY LIST OF
RESERVATIONS RE TRANSIT VISAS PER PARA TWO REFTEL B,
TO MFA CONSULAR ADMINISTRATION DEPUTY CHIEF I. M.
GOROKHOV ON MARCH 7. CONGEN VICE CONSUL CLYATT THEN
SUBMITTED NON-PAPER RE LENINGRAD'S POUCH PROBLEMS,
PER REFTEL C, TO GOROKHOV. ALSO PRESENT AT MEETING
FROM EMBASSY WAS VICE CONSUL ROBERT PRINGLE AND FROM
MFA, CONSULAR ADMINISTRATION COUNSELOR N. G. KUSTOV,
CONSULAR ADMINISTRATION COUNSELOR N. M. BULAVIN
AND USA DIVISION SECOND SECRETARY YU. F. BOBENKO.

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2. IN EXCHANGE, GOROKHOV SUBMITTED MFA NON-PAPER
WHICH APPEARS TO COVER SAME POINTS AS HIS ORAL
PRESENTATION REPORTED REFTEL D.

3. IN INFORMAL COMMENT ON EMBASSY'S NON-PAPER,
SOVIET SIDE EXPRESSED GREAT DISAPPOINTMENT AT
OUR NON-COMPLIANCE WITH SOVIET REQUEST FOR ISSUANCE

OF DIPLOMATIC "A" VISAS TO SUPREME SOVIET DEPUTIES AND NON-CABINET RANKING CHAIRMEN AND DEPUTY CHAIRMEN OF STATE COMMITTEES. SOVIETS ALSO EXPRESSED EQUAL DISPLEASURE WITH US SIDE'S RESERVATIONS ON TRANSIT VISAS, PARTICULARLY PROPOSED REQUIREMENTS RE ARRIVAL AND ONWARD FLIGHT DATA AND THE FACT THAT CONTINUOUS TRANSIT VISAS MUST BE REQUESTED A WORKING DAY RATHER THAN JUST 24 HOURS PRIOR TO ISSUANCE. THEY STATED, HOWEVER, THAT THESE WERE THEIR INITIAL VIEWS AND DID NOT CONSTITUTE MFA RESPONSE.

4. SOVIET SIDE RECEIVED NON-PAPER ON LENINGRAD POUCH PROBLEMS WITHOUT COMMENT. SOVIET SIDE DID NOT RAISE OBJECTIONS OF SIMILAR PROBLEMS FOR SOVIET COURIERS IN SAN FRANCISCO ALTHOUGH THEY WERE INVITED TO DO SO. NOR DID THEY CITE PREVIOUSLY ALLEGED FINNO-SOVIET TREATY RESTRICTIONS ON COURIER ESCORTED POUCHES CONVEYED.

5. DEPARTMENT IS REQUESTED TO CONSIDER POSSIBILITY OF EMPLOYING LEVERAGE IN EVENT MFA IS NOT FORTHCOMING ON LENINGRAD'S POUCH PROBLEMS. EMBASSY AND CONGEN BELIEVE THAT IT SHOULD BE RELATIVELY EASY TO IMPOSE RECIPROCAL AIR POUCH PROBLEMS ON CONGEN SAN FRANCISCO. DEPARTMENT REQUESTED TO ADVISE WHETHER ANY LEVERAGE EXISTS IN EVENT MFA REFUSES TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RELIEVE LENINGRAD'S NON-PRO COURIER OF HAVING TO CONVEY LARGE UNCLASSIFIED BAGS IN SMALL PASSENGER COMPARTMENTS.

6. COPIES OF NON-PAPERS BEING POUCHED TO DEPARTMENT. TOON

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